

CLAIMS

1. A protective layer thermal transfer sheet comprising: a substrate sheet and, formed on at least a part of one side of the substrate sheet in the following order, a release layer, a protective layer and optionally an adhesive layer, said release layer containing a resin and a filler and having a roughened surface.

2. The protective layer thermal transfer sheet according to claim 1, wherein the filler has an average particle diameter of 1 to 20  $\mu\text{m}$ .

3. A protective layer thermal transfer sheet for controlling the gloss of an image, comprising the protective layer thermal transfer sheet according to claim 1, the content of the filler, in terms of PV ratio defined as the ratio of the solid content of the filler contained in the release layer to the solid content of a binder in the release layer, having been controlled to a value in the range of 0.05 to 0.5% by weight to control the gloss of an image, after the transfer of the protective layer from the protective layer thermal transfer sheet onto the image, to a predetermined value in the range of 0 (zero) to 50.0 as measured at an angle of incidence of 45 degrees with a glossmeter.

4. A matted print comprising a sublimation dye transferred image and, provided on the surface of the image, a protective layer having in its surface fine concaves and convexes which has been transferred using the protective layer thermal transfer sheet according to any one of claims 1 to 3.